

difficult time a little easier as our office and world settled into a “new normal.”

A couple of years later, when our chief of staff took a temporary leave from the office, it wasn't even a close call. We knew Trudy was the right choice to lead the entire office in the interim. It was a big job to take on. She stepped up. The transition was seamless. She led the office through a historic year that brought so many wins for Ohioans: the CHIPS Act, the PACT Act, the Inflation Reduction Act. She led our shift back to an in-person work.

To say the least, it has been an eventful 3 years. Through it all, Trudy has been a dedicated member of this office. She has been a leader. This office wouldn't be the place it is today without her.

As a communications director, she always had her team's back. She went to bat for them. She supported them in and out of the office, attending events on her personal time, like choir concerts, to cheer them on.

As a manager, she gave junior staff the room they needed to grow. She listened. She recognized potential. She invested in every member of our team. She made sure everyone was set up for success so they would move forward even after she would leave.

She is a trusted adviser, a talented brainstormer. She is an advocate for women, especially for women of color, across the Senate. She makes colleagues feel appreciated and seen.

Most of all, Trudy believes in this office and this institution and the good that each of us can do for Ohioans and Americans.

Every member of our staff—from the interns to the senior staff—have learned from Trudy Perkins, whether it is her communications expertise or how to stay calm in stressful situations or even just to show kindness and smile after a long day.

We have certainly picked up a few of her sayings along the way, like “no ma'am pam” and “hot diggity dog.” She doesn't always talk that way, but sometimes.

We will miss her sense of humor. We will miss her laugh, which you can hear from any corner of the office. And if the microphones were loud enough, you could have just heard it then from this corner. I know every member of Team Brown will miss having her as part of this team.

At the beginning of this Congress, I asked each member of my staff to share a meaningful memory from the 117th Congress—and this is where the Presiding Officer comes in. Trudy reminded me of the Letter from a Birmingham Jail reading that she organized after former Senator Jones asked me to continue the tradition. We chose three Republicans and three Democrats to read Dr. King's immortal words. Trudy asked that Senator WARNOCK read the final section, as RAPHAEL is the first Black Senator from Georgia

and serves as the senior pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, where Dr. King attended and Dr. King's father was the pastor.

It was a moment of immense symbolism and joy as he read his predecessor's words on the Senate floor. That letter also includes perhaps my favorite Dr. King quote:

Human progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability.

I will say that again:

Human progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability.

Progress rolls in because we make it so. It rolls in because we organize, we push, we work every angle for as long as it takes. Progress rolls in because of people like Trudy Perkins who dedicate their lives to fighting to make a difference in this world. Our country is a better place because of her service and because of her leadership.

Trudy will be spending more time with her mother in Maryland. Her dedication to her family has always been unwavering.

Trudy, you will be missed more than you know. We will continue to fight for the values that you hold dear and make a difference in the lives of all Ohioans.

On behalf of everyone in our office, the staff on the Banking and Housing Committee, some of my colleagues who know Trudy, and all those who have had the honor of working with her, we congratulate Trudy Perkins on her career. We wish her well in retirement. We thank her from the bottom of our hearts for her terrific service to our Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, before he leaves the floor, I just want my colleague to know that what you just heard from Senator BROWN is why, every single day, he gives public service a good name. He shows up, and he works for the people. It is thrilling to see that, as always, he recognizes that he can't do it by himself. He has got staff, and it is so appropriate to hear him and his gracious remarks about his colleague who is moving on.

Mr. President, it is great to see you.

For those who aren't familiar, those of us on the Senate Finance Committee have been so proud to work with our colleague Senator WARNOCK, particularly his championship of affordable medicine and affordable insulin, where he has been a leader for all of us on this side of the aisle. And had he had his way, all Americans—not just those who depend on Medicare—would already have the benefits of more affordable medicine.

NOMINATION OF ADRIENNE C. NELSON

Mr. President, I want to use my time to offer my unwavering support for the confirmation of Associate Justice Adrienne Nelson to the U.S. District Court for Oregon.

Through a powerful combination of legal knowledge and a commitment to

justice for all, Justice Adrienne Nelson has amassed an extraordinary record, earning her a well-deserved seat on the Oregon Supreme Court, the first Black woman ever to serve there.

Before she was the first Black woman Oregon Supreme Court justice, before law school, before her impressive legal career, which includes her 12 years of experience on Multnomah County Circuit Court, in private practice, as a public defender, even before she could vote, Judge Nelson was No. 1 in her class at an Arkansas high school that wouldn't recognize her as valedictorian because of the color of her skin. The lawsuit that followed in her name ensured that no student could be denied any accomplishment based on their race, and that victory activated a lifelong legal mind and civil rights champion.

Around my State, Justice Nelson is lauded for her prodigious work ethic, her integrity, and her humility. Support for her nomination comes from her fellow Justices on the Oregon Supreme Court, nonprofit and business leaders, law enforcement officials from urban and rural communities; and that includes district attorneys, the sheriff of our largest county, and a former U.S. Attorney who served under both Democratic and Republican administrations.

There is so much to like about Judge Nelson, but what I like most is that she is a role modeled for young people. Young people in my State really look up to Judge Nelson. In fact, there is an Adrienne C. Nelson High School in Happy Valley, OR. I think everybody reports that the students there just adore her.

In addition to these impressive accomplishments and the praise and her service as a role model, she has never lost sight of that valedictorian fighting tooth and nail within the American legal system to make ours a better and even stronger country for everybody. I am certain she is going to bring that dedication and commitment to justice for all to every single case that crosses her desk.

There is no question that, with Justice Nelson's top-notch qualifications, she is going to make a superb Federal judge. It is all these reasons together that causes me tonight to urge our colleagues—it will happen shortly, later in the week—to vote for this supremely qualified candidate to the U.S. District Court.

In Oregon, we are all so proud of Judge Adrienne Nelson, and I believe all Americans will be when she is in service on the court.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONFIRMATION OF MATTHEW GARCIA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the confirmation of Matthew Garcia to the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico.

Mr. Garcia is an experienced litigator with deep ties to the New Mexico legal community. He received degrees from the University of New Mexico, the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and the University of New Mexico School of Law before establishing a career in civil rights litigation. Mr. Garcia represented plaintiffs in religious liberty, unlawful discrimination, and wage theft cases. He also gained experience in multistate antitrust actions and personal injury matters. In 2019, Mr. Garcia left private practice and joined the New Mexico State government as general counsel to New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. He now serves as her chief of staff and advises on issues related to State constitutional questions and statutory interpretation.

Throughout his career, Mr. Garcia has appeared frequently in State and Federal court. His breadth of experience in government and the private sector will make him ready to serve on the District of New Mexico from day one. The American Bar Association unanimously rated Mr. Garcia "well qualified," and he has the strong support of his home-State Senators, Mr. HEINRICH and Mr. LUJÁN.

I supported his nomination and was glad to see him confirmed.

CONFIRMATION OF LINDSAY C. JENKINS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the confirmation of Lindsay Jenkins to U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Born in Cleveland, OH, Ms. Jenkins received her bachelor's degree from Miami University of Ohio and her J.D., *summa cum laude*, from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. After clerking for Judge Solomon Oliver, Jr., on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio and working in private practice for 2 years, Ms. Jenkins spent the majority of her legal career—15 years—as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, Ms. Jenkins prosecuted a range of cases, including violations of drug and firearm

laws, fraud, gang-related activity, civil rights violations, and corruption. In addition to her caseload at the U.S. Attorney's Office, she took on supervisory responsibilities, rising to become chief of the Criminal Division. In that role, she oversaw all criminal prosecutions in the Northern District of Illinois, supervising nearly 150 prosecutors across 9 prosecution sections.

In 2021, Ms. Jenkins returned to private practice, primarily working on internal investigations and white collar cases. The American Bar Association rated Ms. Jenkins as unanimously "well qualified." Given her qualifications and her deep knowledge of the Northern District, Senator DUCKWORTH and I strongly support Ms. Jenkins.

I thank my colleagues for confirming her.

CONFIRMATION OF GINA MENDEZ-MIRO

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the confirmation of Judge Gina Mendez-Miro to the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

Judge Mendez-Miro is an experienced jurist and dedicated public servant. A graduate of the University of Puerto Rico and Princeton University, she spent several years in private practice before devoting the rest of her legal career to public service. Judge Mendez-Miro has served in all three branches of the Puerto Rico government. She served as Assistant Attorney General for Human Resources for the Puerto Rico Department of Justice, as director of judicial programs and general counsel and director of legal affairs in the Puerto Rico judicial branch's office of courts administration, and as chief of staff for the Puerto Rico Senate. In 2016, Judge Mendez-Miro was appointed by the Governor of Puerto Rico and unanimously confirmed by the Puerto Rican Senate to serve on the Puerto Rico Court of Appeals. The American Bar Association unanimously rated Judge Mendez-Miro as "qualified."

I supported her nomination and was glad to see her confirmed.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, on February 13, 2023, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall vote No. 9. My absence was due to official duties in New Mexico that presented an unavoidable conflict. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on vote No. 9.

On February 13, 2023, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall vote No. 10. My absence was due to official duties in New Mexico that presented an unavoidable conflict. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on vote No. 10.

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, in accordance with rule XXVI, paragraph 2 of

the Standing Rules of the Senate, I ask unanimous consent for myself as chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics and for Senator LANKFORD as vice chairman of the committee that the rules of procedure of the Select Committee on Ethics, which were adopted February 23, 1978, and revised November 1999, be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the 118th Congress.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PART I: ORGANIC AUTHORITY

SUBPART A—S. RES. 338 AS AMENDED

*S. Res. 338, 88th Cong., 2d Sess. (1964)*¹

Resolved, That (a) there is hereby established a permanent select committee of the Senate to be known as the Select Committee on Ethics (referred to hereinafter as the "Select Committee") consisting of six Members of the Senate, of whom three shall be selected from members of the majority party and three shall be selected from members of the minority party. Members thereof shall be appointed by the Senate in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 1 of Rule XXIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate at the beginning of each Congress. For purposes of paragraph 4 of Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member or chairman of the Select Committee shall not be taken into account.

(b) Vacancies in the membership of the Select Committee shall not affect the authority of the remaining members to execute the functions of the committee, and shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments thereto are made.

(c) (1) A majority of the members of the Select Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business involving complaints or allegations of, or information about, misconduct, including resulting preliminary inquiries, adjudicatory reviews, recommendations or reports, and matters relating to Senate Resolution 400, agreed to May 19, 1976.²

(2) Three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of routine business of the Select Committee not covered by the first paragraph of this subparagraph, including requests for opinions and interpretations concerning the Code of Official Conduct or any other statute or regulation under the jurisdiction of the Select Committee, if one member of the quorum is a member of the majority Party and one member of the quorum is a member of the minority Party. During the transaction of routine business any member of the Select Committee constituting the quorum shall have the right to postpone further discussion of a pending matter until such time as a majority of the members of the Select Committee are present.

(3) The Select Committee may fix a lesser number as a quorum for the purpose of taking sworn testimony.³

(d) (1) A member of the Select Committee shall be ineligible to participate in—

(A) any preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review relating to—

(i) the conduct of—

(I) such member;

(II) any officer or employee the member supervises; or

(III) any employee of any officer the member supervises; or

(ii) any complaint filed by the member; and

(B) the determinations and recommendations of the Select Committee with respect